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1962/10/25

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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SECRET

POLAD

Control: 18340

Rec'd: October 25, 1962

4:24 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

Info

FROM: Lima

REVIEWED by

DATE 3/30/88

TO: Secretary of State

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G NO: 494, October 25, 2 p.m.

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Newspapers carried various versions of story datelined Washington filed by ANSA, AFP and UPI that eight LA countries have already offered active participation in blockade. Story is attributed to official North American sources. Most accurate version appears in CRONICA under UPI story saying five countries have already made definite offers and adding that Venezuela, Colombia and Peru had made general offer support before blockade proclaimed. Worst story from Junta point of view mixes up parts all three under headline "Peru Joins Blockade".

Foreign Minister in informal conversation with me this morning said that Junta would have to put out communique "for internal purposes" stating that no decision had yet been taken respect active participation. I believe I have persuaded him preface this bald statement with declaration Junta general support continental defense and that Junta now studying most effective means carry out general policy.

Obvious that Foreign Minister unhappy that US sources being used by local newspapers give impression Junta committed to active participation but at same time aware that outright denial would be exploited give impression Peru not supporting

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-2- 494, October 25, 2 p.m., from: Lima

FUSG. Therefore trying find typically Peruvian safe middle ground.

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Foreign Minister declined give me any insight into direction of Junta discussion respect active participation.

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HENDERSON

DMJ

NOTE: RELAYED TO OSD, CIA, ARMY, NAVY, AIR, 10-25-62, 6:04 PM., AM.

NOTE: Advance copies to Mr. Poole (ARA) and SS-O 10-25-62 CWO-M

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